Confidential,

C Section no: 24
of 41-42.

1941-1942.

CB 161-41-1.

B Jan 1942.

Subject - Action to be taken under Defence of India Rules against persons who incite Labourers employed in industrial Concerns in the State

Serial No.

Action can be taken either under Rule 129(1)(a). or Rule 38(5). of the Defence of India Rules — under Rule 129(1)(a). the speech may be considered as one tendency the efficient prosecution of the war in as much as the Binny Mills are engaged in war production. Action under 38(5) also can be taken as the speech comes under the purview of Rule 34(6)(b) of the Defence of India Rules (as) prejudicial act.

Reading the 2nd Schedule of the Cr. Pr. Code, it is an offence for which a person can be arrested without warrant.

No action can be taken under the Labour Act as Sec 29 of the Act makes it the person responsible only if it results in a strike which is declared illegal by the Registrar

Law Secretary 13/11/41

The speeches do not appear to come under the purview of Rules 129(1)(a) and R. 38(5) of the Defence of India Rules. It would be much better if action is taken under the Labour Act; if the strike is to take place and declared illegal by the Registrar. Otherwise, it may lead to unnecessary sensation.

Hm 13.11.41

Minister) for Law) thro the Chief Secy)

13-11-41

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
NOV 13 1941
No. 4718

The letter received from the Binny Mills Management in the matter is also placed in the file - flag T.

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

1486/C 9

File No. of 194

General and Revenue Secretariat

Serial No.

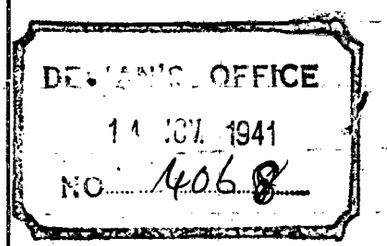
Subd.

MS
13/11/41

Dewan)

MS

Chief Secy may now discuss 13/11/41
briefly with D.G. P & D strength & suggest further action
MS
18/11



I have spoken to the I.G.P. in the matter. He said he would consult the City Supdt of Police and also the D.M. I shall speak to the D.M. after H.H's tour in the Dt is over.

MS
14/11/41

CS 161-41-1

1516/5B

Mr. M. SESHADRI, M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.

Dated 8th November 1941

D. O. ....C.C....1/41

DEWAN'S OFFICE
10. NOV. 1941
No. 3875

4457
CR/XIII/41

Dewan / Law Minister } Subd MK 9.11.41

No. 231
15.11.41.

Dear Mr. Kesaviengar,

Congress Activity.

9/11/41 11/V

I am sending herewith, for favour of perusal, copy of report No.C.C.1-70/41 dated 8-11-41, received from the City Superintendent of Police, Bangalore, on the above subject.

Yours sincerely,

J M Devadas

A. Whether such agitation does not fall under D of I Act in the present circumstances should be considered

4/11

CB. MK 15/11/41

WD 02724—GPB—40,000—3-7-41

Form No. 24]

MYSORE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

Received..... .....*Registered*.....

From (Name) M. WYNNE, ESQUIRE,

(Designation) Superintenddnt of Police,

Post Box....., (STATION) Bangalore City.....

Telegraphic Address .....'P.O.L.S.U.P'

To

The Deputy Commissioner,
Bangalore District,
B a n g a l o r e.

SIR, C.C.*No.* 1-70/41-2 *dated* November 8, *194* 1.

ENCLOSURES..... ....
....
.....
SPARE COPIES... ....

I have the honour to state that it is reported that Mr. K.T.Bhashyam expressed that the object of the working Committee meeting called for on the 9th instant is to create a public opinion against the order and arrest of Mr. H.Siddaiya, President of the Mysore Congress and that if left to itself, the public opinion will be divided. Mr. Siddaiya is expected in Bangalore this evening.

Issuing a statement regarding the Bhadravathi Settlement Mr. Bhashyam states that there is no reason for them to be pleased with the settlement which is not substantial, and that the appointment of Mr. K.R.Madhavarao in place of N.D.Shanker as President is not agreeable to him. Personally he wants that the labourers of Bhadravathi should insist for the release of N.D. Shanker after registering their union.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedeient Servant,

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

Bhadravati Settlement —
whether any agitation against it, would or would not fall under D. Act?

Bhadravati Industry is carrying on work for the efficient prosecution of the war & any thing which impedes, restricts, or delays

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

WD 04155—GPB—55,000—23-10-41

2648/41 p241

1516/es

File No. of 194 . | General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial No.

such work, amounts to a Prejudicial Act, under R. 34 (6) (h) of the D. of I. Act. Such an act is punishable under R. 38 (5) of the said Act.

The behaviour of the agitators is well known. From the report it is seen that ~~[illegible]~~ the Bakhyam has suggested that an attempt should be made to carry on an agitation against the Settlement soon after the Census is registered. This by itself does not constitute any offence - but if any effective Step is taken towards bringing about the said agitation (or) if any attempt is made towards, or if any one does any act preparatory to, the commission of a Prejudicial Act, such an attempt or preparation amounts to an offence under R. 121 of the D. of I. Rules.

At present, there is only a suggestion made, & as such, no steps can be taken against any one now either under the D. of I. Act or under the Labour Act.

Law Secretary) 3 16/11/41

SECY. LAW DEPT. 17 NOV. 1941 GOVT OF MYSORE

The agitation does no doubt amounts to a prejudical act under R34(6)(h) of the Defence of India Act. It may not be desirable to take action on

Serial No.

the statement at present. It merely states the personal opinion of Mr. Bhashyam. Moreover even according to it, the registration of the association has to take place and thereafter the release of Dr. D. Shankar may be insisted upon. If any action is now taken, that itself would be a cause of the workers to strike. At present no notice may be taken of the statement.

Minister in Law.) Hyd 17.11.41.

17/11/41

Chief Sec'y may be on the look out for fresh report and submit for further action as need arises.

We cannot ignore clear offences under the D. O. I. Act because of probable consequences. This imports a new principle into penal Codes.

The situation however appears to be changing for the better 18-11-41

Chief Secy) M.C. Hyd 19.11.41

C.B. 19/11/41

Put this up with the other file. MK 20/11/41

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW. NOV 18 1941 No. L 9444/41

Not at all. Shankar is not a member of the association. He was not the leader of the strike. He was dismissed by the Labour Dept. on the 6th for misconduct. He was not a spokesman of the workers.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW NOV 18 1941 No. L 9444/41

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

WD 04155—GPB—55,000—23-10-41

7

For Disposal at a meeting. Confidential No. C. 437 9

9 1941-42

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Council Matter.

Subject

Action to be taken against certain labour leaders under the Defence of India Rules.

Circulated to the Council of Ministers.

By Order,

P. Kesavulu Pal

20th November 1941. *Chief Secretary to Government.*

2964/21.11.41 **Minister for Finance and Revenue.** KVR 21.11.41

Minister for Law. 20.11.41

Minister for Education. 24.11.41

3100/28-11-41 **Minister for Local Self-Government and Public Health.** 25.11.41

CB.

8

26/11/41

Serial No.

Confl

Copy of letter No. 252 dated the 3rd December 1941 from Mr.Nisbett, Managing Director, the Bangalor Woollen, Cotton and Silk Mills Co., Ltd., to the Commissioner of Labour in Mysore.

....

Development Secretary

"Please submit to Dewan with references and a note in consultation with Chief Secretary."

Intd. A.V.R.
3/12

Subd for perusal

Mr K.T. Bhashyam's Statement in question which has appeared in the Daily News of the 3rd Dec. is placed below for perusal, together with a copy of Mr. Justice Singaravelu Mudali's Report and a copy of the G.O. publishing the findings of the Comm^r of Labour on certain points raised in the course of the Minerva & Mysore Mills Strikes (April - July. 41).

Mr Nisbett refers to portions of this Statement & suggests whether the Govt cannot take action "to prevent such statements being made & to suppress the papers responsible for publishing them." He observes that such statements are calculated to incite the workers by misrepresenting actual facts and bound to lead to further trouble.

From a careful perusal of the Statement in question however, it does not appear that Mr Bhashyam has said anything in respect of which he can be proceeded against for the paper publishing it.

Dewan
Ch Secy
Home Secy

9

WO
9/12/41

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

CHIEF SECRETARY 9 DEC. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

12

No. 252

File No. of 194 . | General and Revenue Secretariat

Serial No.

It is not possible for Government to take action on the statement as suggested by the Mill authorities. The statement is so mild that it does not constitute an offence under any Act. It is better that no notice is taken of it.

Hm
9.12.41.

Law Minister) MS 10/12/41

9/12

10-12-44

Dewan).

DEC 10 1941
5822

11/12/41

Dev. Secy M/C:) Hm 12/12/41. CB.

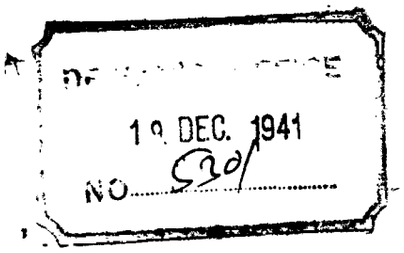
12/12/41

DEVAN'S OFFICE
12. DEC. 1941
NO 4955

DEC 10 1941
5822

C437. 13

Extract from the Proceedings of the Eleventh *Meeting of the Council of Ministers held at Bangalore on* 13th December *194*1.



1. Subject. -

Action to be taken against certain labour leaders under the Defence of India Rules.

...

OPINION OF THE COUNCIL.

No action is called for in respect of the speeches made by certain persons on the 8th November 1941 in the Binny Mills Maidan.

The following general principles may be kept in view in dealing with cases calling for action in future:--

In the case of persons, who incite labourers working in concerns, which are engaged in the production of materials for war purposes, action may be taken under the provisions of the Defence of India Rules as applied to Mysore.

In other cases, where the concerns are not engaged in the production of war materials, action may be taken under the Mysore Labour Act.

(Signed) N. MADHAVA RAU,

DEWAN OF MYSORE.

DEC 18 1941
6214

Submitted with a D. F. N.

Law minister) F.R. Signed 16.12.41
18/12

S. N. put up.

Dewan) 18/12

"EXTRACT"

Chief Secretary to Government.

15

Final Note by the Minister for Law.

Subject.—

Action to be taken against certain labour leaders under the Defence of India Rules.

These papers relate to a proposal to take action against certain persons who are associating themselves with industrial labour under the Defence of India Rules.

In connection with certain speeches delivered by Messrs. K.T.Bhashyam, Malvalli Virappa, Shama Iyengar and certain others at a public meeting held by the labourers of the Binny Mills, Bangalore, in the Binny Mill Maidan on the 8th November 1941, the question of taking suitable action against them under the defence of India Rules was considered. The speeches referred to were examined carefully and the legal opinion was that such action could not be successfully launched. The subject was considered at the meeting of the Council held on the 13th December 1941, when the following resolution was recorded:-

A

B.

"No action is called for in respect of the speeches made by certain persons on the 8th November 1941 in the Binny Mills Maidan."

The following general principles may be kept in view in dealing with cases calling for action in future:-

In the case of persons, who incite labourers working in concerns, which are engaged in the production of materials for war purposes, action may be taken under the provisions of the Defence of India Rules, as applied to Mysore.

In other cases, when the concerns are not engaged in the production of war materials, action may be taken under the Mysore Labour Act".

I submit the resolution of the Council for the gracious information of His Highness.

Bangalore,
18th December 1941.

MINISTER FOR LAW.

13

17

Submitted to His Highness.

I submit herewith a Final Note by the Minister for Law in regard to the action to be taken in future under the Defence of India Rules against persons who incite labourers employed in industrial concerns in the State, for His Highness's gracious approval.

M. Visvesvaraya

DEWAN.

Bangalore,
19th December 1941.

14

19

Record of Cases submitted for the Orders of His Highness the Maharaja.

Subject.

Action to be taken in future under the Defence of India Rules against persons who incite labourers employed in industrial concern in the State.

Order.

21/12/'41.

No 460.

15

23/12/41

General and Revenue

Secretariat.

C437. 1486/VT546 CS. 4

Confidential.

SUBJECT:—

Action to be taken in future under the Defence of India Rules against persons who incite labourers employed in Industrial Concerns in the State.

(*)

31. All urgent or confidential files returned with His Highness' orders may, in the absence of instructions or indications to the contrary, be ordinarily circulated to the Ministers for perusal after the issue of orders.

33. The Secretaries concerned should see that orders in the cases referred to above are issued at once and that the files are returned immediately after, to the Chief Secretary for circulation to the Ministers.

34. In all other cases, the files will first be circulated to the Ministers at Headquarters and then sent to the Secretariat concerned for the issue of orders.

Circulated to Council of Ministers for perusal of His Highness' orders ~~before/after issue of orders~~. (*Vide* Rules 31, 33 and 34 of the Subsidiary Rules for the conduct of business of Council in the Manual of Council Rules and Procedure.) (*)

Chief Secretary to Government.

Through the Secretary to Government,

.....Department.

Minister for Finance and Revenue. (on leave.)

6407/24.12.41 Minister for Law. 24.12.41

3488/24/12 Minister for Education. 25.12.41

3903/27.12.41 Minister for Local Self-Govt. and Public Health. 28.12.41

Confd. B. 4 Aug.

Instd. for perusal. CB. 29/12/41

WD 30/12 Law Secy.

NOTE —Contn. sheet

16

WD 04199—GPB—500—27-9-41

2/1/42

THE BANGALORE WOOLLEN, COTTON & SILK MILLS Co. Ld.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
WOOLLEN BANGALORE.

TELEPHONE No. 2037.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL.

VICTORY

BANGALORE CITY. 10th November 1941.

Dear Mr. Appadorai Mudaliar,

With compliments for communication to Chief Secretary

I enclose copy of a report that has reached me of a meeting held by Bhashyam outside our Mills on Saturday evening 8th Novr.

Certain statements have been made by Bhashyam and others at this meeting that are likely to incite our workers to go on strike again in January on the Bonus question. There is also a reference in these speeches to the 10 men who were put on probation with an implication that if these 10 men should not be taken back in the Mills the workers should go on strike. Statements of this nature can only forment trouble in our Mills and incite the workers to go on strike again when these questions arise, and it would appear from the wording of the speeches reported that this is the express intention.

I am sending you this report so that you can record to the Government our considered opinion that so long as Bhashyam and his satellites are allowed to hold meetings to incite our workpeople and keep these controversial questions before them, there is every likelihood of a further strike taking place in our Mills. If such

a strike should occur the responsibility for it must be charged to these persons.

Yours sincerely,

amber d

B.G. Appadorai Mdr. Esq.,
B.A., B.Sc., A.M.I.Mech.E.,
Labour Commissioner,
Bangalore.

Copy to:-
A.V. Ramanathan Esq., B.A.,
Minister for Law,
Bangalore.

The Textile Labour Union held a Meeting on 8.11.41 near our Mills. About 800 workers attended the meeting.

Venkatesh told the workers that he was sorry to find that there was no perfect unity amongst them in spite of their attending the meetings in large numbers. He fervently hoped that at least in the near future they would all be united and help them in their efforts. He said that they all knew how the Mill Manager was disgraced in the recent enquiry and how he gave false statements. There was only one month before them for the consideration of the Bonus. It was then, the strength of the Labourers would be tested. He trusted that all of them with one voice would state that unless 10% usual Bonus be paid to workers independent of Dividend they would not work. He was also sorry to find that the workmen never realised the hardships and sufferings, their Leaders underwent on their behalf and warned them that they should act properly at the next Bonus payment.

Mr. Bhashyam then said that the enquiry had come to a close and that as all of them knew no workmen came in support of the Management. He was glad to find that that was the sort of union expected of the Labourers. He was sure that the Judgment would not be properly made since the Labour Commissioner stated that he was not certain of some facts. The Labour Commissioner did not remember whether he said that there should

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not be victimization of the leaders while the Management stated that they did not guarantee non-victimization of the leaders. Mr. Bhashyam felt sure that the judgment would not be favourable to them. He believedthat the workmen would insist that the 10 men should be given back their jobs or else they could strike work and also the 10% usual bonus to be given to them independent of dividend. He was also certain that the 7000 workers would not have resumed the work on 13th Feb. if there were 10 men less. For this enquiry the Management must have spent at least Rs.20,000/- and the Labour Union 1/10 that amount. The expenses of the Union would be about Rs.200/- a month. He requested that every workmen would contribute 2 as. per month and start the Union with a fair Capital. People throughout the Mysore State have given due credit to the workpeople of your Mills when they resumed work only after the release of the Leaders. This example was followed in Bhadravati when N.D. Shankar was arrested. He said that there should be unity amongst the workers and that they should all wear Gandhi Caps to show their loyalty to the Congress. On the 22nd inst. the Labour Commissioner would convene a meeting to form the Labour Union. He hoped that they would all be present and elect their men already nominated. Narasimha Iyengar stressed on the need of unity amongst the workers and that they should all see to the reinstatement of their 10 leaders. If they

3/

a e not reinstated he would see that the workmen did not enter the Mills. They should not behave like rogues but they should all be straightforward. He was not afraid if he was victimized by the Management. He also requested the present Union members of the Mill, that they with one voice should state that their funds etc. be transferred to the outside Union. They would not be profited if they were to get R.3/- or 4/- as dividend . Mr. Veerappa and the President of T.R.Mills Union then spoke. Puttashankara said that the ten men had worked from the beginning for the welfare of the employees and they were prepared to work for them till the end whether they were reinstated or not. Their reinstatement mainly depended on the workers. He was sure that the workers were firm to get the 10% bonus which had no bearing whatsoever on the dividend. The time for the trial was fast approaching and he was also sure that the other Mills would follow them if they are determined to strike.

10/11/41
R

1486 B 3

Mr. M. SESHADRI, M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.

D. O. ....C.C.2/41-(1-5 -)

Dated ..11th.November..... 1941.

OFFICE OF THE
NOV 12 1941
No. 6641

Dear Mr. Kesaviengar,

Labour - Public Meeting.
Proceedings.

I am sending herewith, for favour of perusal, copy of the report No.C.C.3/41 dated 10-11-41, received from the City Superintendent of Police, Bangalore, on the above subject.

Yours sincerely,

J M Seshadri

Subl
MS
12/11/41
Lakshmipathi
&
Devan

There is considerable inflammatory matter in their speeches. Prompt action under S 9 of I. Act & Labour Act is necessary. The Dewan is merely passing on the reports instead of drawing attention to objectionable portions & taking action or suggesting action

12/11

22

Proceedings of the public meeting of the Labourers of the Binny Mills, Bangalore, held in the Binny Mill maidan at 4-30 p.m. on 8-11-1941. Mr. K.T.Bhashyam, a labour leader, presided. There was a gathering of about 500 labourers including a very few ladies. Messrs. K.T.Bhashyam, Malavalli Virappa and Shamaraja Iyengar attended the meeting.

...

Mr. Venkatesh, Secretary of the Bangalore Textile Labour Union, spoke in Tamil to the following effect:--

Brothers, - To-day we are having a meeting of the labourers. You know how the 10 labourers have suffered just for our cause. We must always be united. I request you to be united. The Europeans come from 7000 miles and they rule us. We are at their mercy. When we are fighting for justice they remove 10 or 100 labourers and deprive them of their jobs. On account of their power and on account of our bellies we have to share defeat. We do not know what our fundamental rights are. We must shatter this bondage into pieces (claps). Just for our sake the 10 labourers are sacrificing their lives. You have neglected your Labour Unions. We are not bold. If all the 7000 labourers are united then the Binny Mill management may even be driven out. You must follow the right path. You are all labourers and you must come forward for the cause of justice. You must fight for the 10% bonus. The Manager cannot shake you if you are united. The Manager was put to lot of shame in the Binny Mills (Enquiry) case and he even uttered falsehood. We get poor wages; our wives and children have to depend on these poor wages. These 10 persons went and suffered just for our sake. We must get ~~11%~~ 10% bonus and these ten people (who are on probation) should be taken back for work. You must all be united. You must not only care for yourselves but you must also care for them. From Ceylon to Himalayas the

Labour Organisation should prevail. You must strengthen your organisation. On account of our struggle, the Mysore Government have introduced certain labour legislations. You must not neglect your Union. The word 'Union' should become a gospel in your mouths. If you are united you can even rule the State. Today the K.G.F.labourers are undergoing many difficulties. They cannot even convene meetings. They have got Section 15. According to that section they will have to quit the Mining area, leaving their houses and properties. Even for that they are prepared just for the sake of the labourers. We must get 'dividend' and not 'bonus'. To get this, we must all be prepared for any sacrifice. You must get your rights. In December you must get 10% dividend. Those who sacrified everything just for our sake are driven out of the Mills. We must get them back. Also we must get 10% cash bonus. For this, we must form labour unions. The Labour Commissioner is going to come here shortly and all the 7000 labourers should be present then and we must form a Labour Union. It is no use attending these meetings. You must all contribute to the Labour Union. I appeal for your help. I now close my speech.

Mr. K.T.Bhashyam, President, wanted to speak in Kannada but he was asked by the labourers to speak in Tamil. Mr. Bhashyam said that he would speak in Tamil at the first instance and then he would speak in Kannada for a few minutes.

Mr. K.T.Bhashyam spoke in Tamil to the following effect:- Labourers - We have much improved now than what we were when we convened the last meeting. The Binny Mill Enquiry was conducted and also concluded. The Judge will submit his report to Government. One important factor is that not a single labourer came forward to give evidence on their side, so that out of the

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7000 labourers they could not catch hold of one labourer. It is a sufficient proof that there is unity among the 7000 labourers. We should have unity. If there was any defect or any act of injustice on the part of the labourers, then the labourer could have come forward to give evidence but such things never happened. The Labour Commissioner told us (labourers) that if we all resumed work no trouble would arise. So that Labour Commissioner intervened but nothing transpired between the labourers and the Mill management. The Labour Commissioner promised us, therefore, we resumed work. Otherwise we would have struck work on the 11th February. You must say that the 10 workers should also be taken to work along with the 7000 labourers; otherwise we will stay out. The Management must realise this; otherwise there is no use in quarrelling with us. If we quarrel we will lose our wages, they (Mill management) will lose their profits and they cannot enhance war production. Let them give you more wages, bread and tea and take more work.

Instead of that, they are quarrelling with us without increasing the war production. There is no use of mere talk. We must all be friendly. You are getting 10% bonus. Let them give it as dividend instead of as bonus. The Mill management should declare 10% dividend instead of giving room to any hitch. It is immaterial whether Bhashyam is in jail or out of jail. The labourers will certainly strike work. When the labourers had struck work, the authorities came to me and appealed to me to request the labourers to resume work. If the Binny Mills want to improve, they must care for the facilities of the labourers. The Mill management should see that they and the labourers are united and they must not give room to any hitch. Let Mr. Misbet and Mr. Osborne etc., also sit in the Union meeting along with our President, Vice-President and other members and discuss matters and come to an amicable settlemen

41

The Labour Commissioner said in the Enquiry that he did not remember to have spoken with the Mill management. But one thing is certain - the Labour Commissioner and his followers were responsible for this trouble. Hereafter we must always have everything in black and white. The Government want to unite us all - why Just to have our tufts in their hands. They may give consent to form labour unions. We should form our own labour unions; we want freedom and we want to make use of our unions. We must keep the Government informed of our requirements. We have to spend something for the sake of labour unions. What Mr. Venkatesh said is true. You, labourers should all pay your subscriptions. It is not mere unity; we must strengthen our union by enrolling more members and paying subscriptions. Just as you offer cocoanut in a temple, you must also pay your subscriptions. Now we have got the Railway Union. The Railway union members paid up their subscriptions and they have now got the All India Railway Federation. On account of this, they got Rs.3/- increment. It is on account of their unity. If all the 7000 labourers are united and demand for an increment of Rs.3/-, we will certainly get it but not until then. You must get your union registered. The Labour Commissioner will come here shortly, on Saturday the 22nd inst. In the evening he will be coming here. On that day you must all assemble here and tell him of our grievances. That day our union will be registered. Then we must write all our requirements and send up to Government. They only test our strength. If we are united, the Labour Commissioner will go and tell them (Management) that all the labourers seem to be united and therefore please pay them 12 annas. If we are not united, then they will say "Don't care". Even God will come down to us if we are united. You must have firm determination. Then even God will come down let alone these Sahebs. Look at Binny Mills. It has become very prominent. We struck work last January and now we have become very prominent. In Bhadravati 4000 labourers struck work. The Binny Mills labourers

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said that unless their leaders are set free, they are not going to resume work. Then they (authorities) came down and appealed to us to go and request the labourers to resume work. The labourers at Bhadravati also said that unless N. D. Shankar is released, they are not going to resume work. They may be Ministers or Labour Commissioner. They know what respect the congress commands today. We must make a mark in the world. Therefore, you must strengthen your organisation and thereby set an example to the whole world. There are other things also. Our N.D.Shankar, Kumaran, Rama Rao and Sheriff have been deported. We must get all these things cancelled. All the labourers should join together and form an All Mysore Labour Federation. Our leaders should be brave. They must not be afraid of jail. They must say "take off our heads or put us into jails. If you put me into jail, another will take my place" They must say this. They must be just and patient. We must not have such leaders who are willing to join the Government. A leader must be prompt and must be prepared to undergo difficulties. Such leaders are found in the congress. I do not think there are others who are of this type. Therefore, you must all join congress. They (authorities) are afraid that the congress would come forward and become powerful. We must get "Swaraj". People should have plenty of food, water etc. We must get such a Government. Instead of that, if they (authorities) set up congress against labourers, we will not get anything. Agriculturists, labourers and congress are one and the same. They all belong to the same group. They represent the people.

P. T. O.

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On the other hand, if they (people) speak for congress, they (authorities) will put Section 17 and will drive the people out. Even the house-owners ask us to please remove our congress office and will issue notices. All the labourers should become one and show their unity. If we get Swaraj we can have our office anywhere. I now tell you one thing. We have been requesting you all to wear a Gandhi cap (from here he spoke in Kannada) You are not wearing a Gandhi cap. You must always have a Gandhi cap with you. If we cannot have Gandhi caps on our heads then how can we attain swaraj. If you put on a Gandhi cap you will become bold. You must not depend upon one Bhashyam or Shamaraja Iyengar. Unless you put on a Gandhi cap you will not have that boldness. Therefore, you must all become congress members and put on khaddar caps. It will prevent you from the wrong path. It will prevent you from going to an arrack shop. Every one should attend these meetings. On the 22nd the Union will be registered; that day the Labour Commr. will come. I will also come. You suggest the names of your President and Vice-President. Mr. Malavalli Virappa, President, Minerva Mill Labour Union, and Shamaraja Iyengar, Vice-President, Bangalore City Municipality and President, T.R. Mills, will speak to you. I request them to speak to you for a few minutes. They the meeting will be concluded.

Mr. Malavalli Virappa spoke in Kannada to the following effect

President and brothers - Till now our Union President, Mr.K.T. Bhashyam had told you everything. The last strike was for a week. The Govt. appointed an Enquiry Committee. The discussions have already been concluded. The Judge hasnow sent his report to Govt. (At this juncture some people went away). Be it as it may. The Govt. should recognise our Labour Union. It must be registered. Then we can satisfy our demands. Hereafter we will

not have such trouble. Even the Mill management cannot be stubborn. The President of the Union will consider the difficulties of the labourers and he will request the Mill management to consider the question. Then the Mill management cannot be so stub born. We are not anxiously waiting for the Enquiry Committee's report. They must take back for work those ten people who are on probation. The Mill management think that it is rather shameful on their part to bow their heads to the labourers. We have also got that prestige. They must have fellow-feeling. They must not be stubborn. They got Mr. Nugent Grant. The Mill management might have spent 1000s of rupees. Unless those ten people are taken back for work, we will not keep quiet. If they do not take them back the 7000 labourers will not resume work. We will say so. The Mill management have to earn lakhs of rupees. Mr. Nuttal should not be stubborn. Let them be friendly with the labourers. They work very hard. I tell them you are earning lakhs of rupees. Therefore, be merciful and have fellow-feeling. Let us come to an amicable settlement. They got profit on account of the 7000 labourers. Therefore, the labourers should get better bonus; they must get better facilities. They (the management) should win the love of the labourers, so that the labourer will be very willing to work. But today,it is not the same. I request them not to be stubborn, at least in future. Let them be kind to the labourers; thereby they will enhance their reputation and prestige. Look at the United Provinces. There the Govt. have issued an order to all the industrial concerns to see their way to pay increased wages so that there may not be any strike. It is also the case in Cawnpore. So also our Govt. should follow them and

they must inform the Mill management to pay increased wages on account of war. They must issue orders to all the mills. If the Govt. do not do that, at least the Mill management should do that. They must pay you increased wages. If they do not do so, we will do it for you after the Union is registered (claps). But all of you - 7000 labourers must enrol yourselves as members to the Binny Mills Labour Union. Have faith in unity. The union will certainly help you and remove your difficulties. You must also become congress members. They your difficulties will be wiped out.

One Mr. Narasimhaiengar (Narasimhiah) spoke in Kannada to the following effect:- Gentlemen - I think you all belong to Binny Mills. The President has said that there are 7000 labourers. I do not see even 1/16 of the 7000 labourers here. Many went away from the mill. The President has asked you to strengthen your organisation. I am also one of the Kepmaris. Till today I have not come forward. If they bring me out, I am prepared for it. We apprehend a tussel between the labourers and the Mill management. If the Mill management refuse to take the 10 people again you must not go to work (claps). You only clap but I have no faith in you. You must all be united. It is a very strong weapon. In England there arouse a hitch between the railway workers and the management. The management refused to pay more wages. The labourers became united and stopped the trains at a certain time on a certain day over the bridges or amidst a forest. When the management wanted to know the cause the labourers asked for more wages. Then the management came round. Similarly in the Postal Dept. at Calcutta, the postal peons struck work. The Postal peons were paid

more on account of the strike. See to-day they get 20-25 rupees. This is all due to unity. We have not got that unity. As the President told you, you must all pay your subscriptions. If our 10 brothers are not taken back for work then you must all be prepared to strike work. If we are united we will get more pay. If they do not take back those 10 persons I will be the first man to carry on this war. On Monday we will get pay. I request you all to pay 2 annas on that day. The Union office has to incur a monthly expenditure of Rs.200/-. The President says so. Please pay two annas each. Even the ladies are put to difficulty on account of us. See they are also listening to us patiently. Please pay the subscriptions. Another thing we have got a Union inside the mills. It is not a rival association. Now it has receded to the background. It is on account of our lack of unity. There we have got some money left. It belongs to us. I do not usually go there. I suggest to you one thing. Some people say that they have paid 10 or 20 Rs. and they want it back. In November or December we will have a General Body meeting. It seems the money left in the Union will be disbursed at that meeting among the members who have paid the money. But I request you all to send that money to our new Labour Union and please do not take away that money.

Mr. Shamaraja Iyengar spoke in Kannada to the following effect: President and gentlemen - Now my talks is very simple. During the Binny Mill enquiry I came to know more about you - your difficulties and defects. I now want to tell you something about your defects. Many of you are afraid. This must go. You are afraid of your jobs and the Mill management. If you determine not to accept bonus unless the other 10 persons are also paid, you must certainly act

according to your determination. None of you should put forth lame excuses. It speaks ill of the labourers. So long we are afraid our conditions will not be improved. If you are united you will get better facilities. Some are very bold. When Mr. Nuttal told one Ramiah that he has kept him on probation, Ramiah questioned him as to why Mr. Nuttal had done so. I appreciate him. We must all be bold. Another thing is in the Enquiry when they asked as to how many members are in the Textile Labour Union - Mr. Puttashankarappa said about 4000 or 5000, while Mr. Aspden said 400 or 500. Look at his (Aspden) indiffernce. All the 7000 labourers should become members of the Textile Labour Union. Every one of you should become a member and pay the subscription and convene meetings. You must exchange your opinions. It will help you. If you all enrol yourselves as members of the Labour Union and convene meetings, then everything will become alright. I think that you know that unity is strength. You must convene meetings and take the opinion of the majority and act according to their decision. You want a place to convene your meetings. You cannot always convene meetings in open places. You will have to convene your Working Committee meetings etc. For a building you require money. You must pay subscriptions - monthly 2 annas. The case against those 10 persons is not a case against those 10 alone. They wanted to give them a representative punishment. That is why the management caught hold of them at the first instance to give representative punishment. If you give up those 10 persons your unity will go. You must all be united and work. We had also to bring an advocate from Madras. We had to incur some expenditure. Those ten persons have suffered just for your sake. We cannot say anything about the judgment. But you must all be united by becoming members of the union, you

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can have your own office-bearers and Committee members and thereb; strengthen your organisation. Amongthe labourers, there are Hindus, Muslims etc. I am very glad that you labourers have not such distinction as Hindu or Muslim. You all work together. Therefore, you must all be united, be brave and pay your subscriptions. The amount you pay may be ~~ಉಪ~~ utilised for those who have lost their jobs and for those who fall ill. You have achieved success on account of congress. You must always take their advice and I am sure you will progress. I pray Almighty to improve your conditions.

Mr. B.C. Puttashankarappa, Vice-President of the Textile Labour Union, spoke in Kannada to the following effect:-

Brothers and sisters:- I propose vote of thanks on your behalf to Messrs. K.T. Bhashyam, Malavalli Virappa and Shamaraja Iyengar of the Bangalore Textile Labour Union, Minerva Mills Labour Union and the T.R. Mills Labour Union respectively. They have told you everything. Even if you forsake those ten persons they will not forsake you. The 10% bonus should be given to all the 7000 labourers. I am telling this in the interest of the Binny Mill management. Till today they have not taken notice of the labour union papers. If the Union is registered, we will ~~ಗಿಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ನಾವು ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ~~ take proper steps. Then the management will come in search of the Labour union. You must all be united and pay your subscriptions. Thereby you will give us courage to go ahead. We are prepared for everything. Everything depends upon you. Taking us (10 persons) back for work is within your hands. You must all become congress members. I once again thank the speakers of the day, and all those who have attended.

The meeting terminated at 5-50 p.m. amidst cries of "[illegible]"

Proceedings of the public meeting of the Labourers of the Binny Mills, Bangalore, held in the Binny Mill maidan at 4-30 p.m. on 8-11-1941. Mr.K.T.Bhashyam, a labour leader, presided. There was a gathering of about 500 labourers including a very few ladies. Messrs.K.T.Bhashyam, Malavalli Virappa and Shamaraja Iyengar attended the meeting.

Mr.Venkatesh, Secretary of the Bangalore Textile Labour Union, spoke in Tamil to the following effect:-

Brothers, - Today we are having a meeting of the labourers. You know how the 10 labourers have suffered just for our cause. We must always be united. I request you to be united. The Europeans come from 7000 miles and they rule us. We are at their mercy. When we are fighting for justice they remove 10 or 100 labourers and deprive them of their jobs. On account of their power and on account of our bellies we have to share defeat. We do not know what our fundamental rights are. We must shatter this bondage into pieces(claps). Just for our sake the 10 labourers are sacrificing their lives. You have neglected your Labour Unions. We are not bold. If all the 7000 labourers are united then the Binny Mill management may even be driven out. You must follow the right path. You are all labourers and you must come forward for the cause of justice. You must fight for the 10% bonus. The Manager cannot shake you if you are united. The Manager was put to lot of shame in the Binny Mills(Enquiry) case and he even uttered falsehood. We get poor wages; our wives and children have to depend on these poor wages. These 10 persons went and suffered just for our sake. We must get 10% bonus and these ten people(who are on probation) should be taken back for work. You must all be united. You must not only care for yourselves but you must also care for them. From Ceylon to Himalayas the Labour Organisation should prevail. You must strengthen your organisation. On account of our struggle, the Mysore Government have introduced certain labour - legislations. You must not neglect your Union. The word 'Union' should become a gospel in your mouths. If you are united you can even rule the State. Today the K.G.F.labourers are undergoing many difficulties. They cannot even convene meetings. They have got Section 15. According to that

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section they will have to quit the Mining area, leaving their houses and properties. Even for that they are prepared just for the sake of the labourers. We must get 'dividend' and not 'bonus'. To get this, we must all be prepared for any sacrifice. You must get your rights. In December you must get 10% dividend. Those who sacrificed everything just for our sake are driven out of the Mills. We must get them back. Also we must get 10% cash bonus. For this, we must form labour unions. The Labour Commissioner is going to come here shortly and all the 7000 labourers should be present then and we must form a labour Union. It is no use attending these meetings. You must all contribute to the labour Union. I appeal for your help. I now close my speech.

Mr.K.T.Bhashyam, President, wanted to speak in Kannada but he was asked by the labourers to speak in Tamil. Mr.Bhashyam said that he would speak in Tamil at the first instance and then he would speak in Kannada for a few minutes.

Mr.K.T.Bhashyam spoke in Tamil to the following effect:-

Labourers- We have much improved now than what we were when we convened the last meeting. The Binny Mill Enquiry was conducted and also concluded. The Judge will submit his report to Government. One thing important factor is that not a single labourer came forward to give evidence on their side, so that out of the 7000 labourers they could not catch hold of one labourer. It is a sufficient proof that there is unity among the 7000 labourers. We should have unity. If there was any defect or any act of injustice on the part of the labourers, then the labourer could have come forward to give evidence but such things never happened. The Labour Commissioner told us(labourers) that if we all resumed work no trouble would arise. So that Labour Commissioner intervened but nothing transpired between the labourers and the Mill management. The Labour Commissioner promised us- therefore, we resumed work. Otherwise we would have struck work on the 11th ~~Xxxx~~ February. You must say that the 10 workers should be also taken to work along with the 7000 labourers; otherwise we will stay out. The Management must realise this; otherwise there is no use in quarrelling with us. If we quarrel we will lose our wages, they(Mill management) will lose their profits and they cannot enhance war production. Let them give you more wages, bread and tea and take more work.

Instead of that, they are quarrelling with us without increasing the war production. There is no use of mere talk. We must all be friendly. You are getting 1% bonus. Let them give it as bonus dividend instead of as bonus. The Mill management should declare 10% dividend instead of giving room to any hitch. It is immaterial whether Bhashyam is in jail or out of jail. The labourers will certainly strike work. When the labourers had struck work, the authorities came to me and appealed to me to request the labourers to resume work. If the Binny Mills want to improve, they must care for the facilities of the labourers. The Mill management should see that they and the labourers are united and they must not give room to any hitch. Let Mr.Nisbet and Mr.Osborne etc., also sit in the Union meeting as along with our President, and Vice-President and other members and discuss matters and come to an amicable settlement. The Labour Commissioner said in the Enquiry that he did not remember to have ever spoken with the Mill management. But one thing is certain- the Labour Commissioner and his followers were responsible for this trouble. Hereafter we must always have everything in black and white. The Government want to unite us all- why? Just to have our tufts in their hands. They may give consent to form labour unions. We should form our own labour unions; we want freedom and we want to make use of our unions. We must keep the Government informed of our requirements. We have to spend something for the sake of labour unions. What Mr. Venkatesh said is true. You, labourers should all pay your subscriptions. It is not mere unity; we must strengthen our union by enrolling more members and paying subscriptions. Just as you offer coconut in a temple, you must also pay your subscriptions. Now we have got the Railway Union. The Railway union members paid up their subscriptions and they have now got the All India Railway Federation. On account of this, they got Rs.3/- increment. It is on account of their unity. If all the 7000 labourers are united and demand for an increment of Rs.3/-, we will certainly get it but not until then. You must get your union registered. The Labour Commissioner will come here shortly, on Saturday the 22nd instant. In the evening he will be coming here.

On that day you must all assemble here and tell him of our grievances. That day our union will be registered. Then we must write all our requirements and send up to Government. They only look our strength. If we are united, the Labour Commissioner will go and tell the (Government) all the labourers seem to be united and therefore please pay the 18 annas. If we are not united, then they will say "Don't care". Even God will come down to us if we are united. You must have firm determination. Then even God will come down let alone these Sahebs. Look at Birla Mills. It has become very prominent. We struck work last January and now we have become very prominent. In Bhadravati 4000 labourers struck work. The Birla Mills labourers said that unless their leaders are not free, they are not going to resume work. Then they(authorities) came down and appealed to us to go and request the labourers to resume work. They labourers at Bhadravati also said that unless M.D.Shankar is released, they are not going to resume work. They may be Ministers or Labour Commissioner. They have that respect the congress commands today. We must make a mark in the world. Therefore, you must strengthen your organisation and thereby set an example to the whole world. There are other big things also. Our M.D.Shankar, Munavar, Ram Rao and Shariff have been deported. We must get all these things cancelled. All the labourers should join together and form an All Mysore Labour Federation. Our leaders should be brave. They must not be afraid of jail. They must say "take off our heads or put us into jails. If you put us into jail, another will take my place". They must say this. They must be just and patient. We must not have such leaders who are willing to join the Government. A leader must be prompt and must be prepared to undergo difficulties. Such leaders are found in the congress. I do not think there are others who are (of) this type. Therefore, you must all join congress. They(authorities) are afraid that the congress would come forward and become powerful. We must get 'Swaraj'. People should have plenty of food, water etc. We must get such a Government. Instead of that, if they(authorities) put up congress against labourers, we (they) will not get anything. Agriculturists, labourers and congress are one and the same. They all belong to the same group. They represent the people.

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On the other hand, if they(people) speak for congress, they (authorities) will put Section 17 and will drive the people out. Even the house-owners ask us to please remove our congress office and will issue notices. All the labourers should become one and show their unity. If we get Swaraj we can have our offi anywhere. I now tell you one thing. We have been requesting you all to wear a Gandhi cap(from here he spoke in Kannada). You are not wearing a Gandhi cap. You must always have a Gandhi cap with you. If we cannot have Gandhi caps on our heads them how can we attain swaraj. If you put on a Gandhi cap you will become bold. You must not depend upon one Bhashyam or Shamaraja Iyengar. Unless you put on a Gandhi Cap you will not have that boldness. Therefore, you must all become congress members and put on khaddar caps. It will prevent you from the wrong path. It will prevent you from going to an arrack shop. Every one should attend these meetings. On the 22nd the Union will be registered; that day the Labour Commissioner will come. I will also come. You suggest the names of your President and Vice-President. President, Minerva Mill Labour Union, Mr.Malavalli Virappa and Shamaraja Iyengar, Vice-President, Bangalo & President, T.R.Mills, City Municipality will speak to you. I request them to speak to you for a few minutes. Then the meeting will be concluded

Mr.Malavalli Virappa spoke in Kannada to the following effect:-

President and brothers- Till now our Union President, Mr.K.T.-Bhashyam had told you everything. The last strike was for a week. The Government appointed an Enquiry Committee. The discussions have already been concluded. The Judge has now sent his report to Government(At this juncture some people went away). Be it as it may. The Government should recognise our Labour union. It must be registered. Then we can satisfy our demands. Hereafter we will not have such trouble. Even the Mill management cannot be stubborn The President of the Union will consider the difficulties of the labourers and he will request the Mill management to consider the question. Then the Mill management cannot be so stubborn. We

are not anxiously waiting for the Enquiry Committee's report. They must take back for work those ten people who are on probation. The Mill management think that it is rather shameful on their part to bow their heads to the labourers. We have also got that prestige. They must have fellow-feeling. They must not be stubborn. They got Mr.Nugent Grant. The Mill management might have spent 1000s of rupees. Unless those ten people are taken back for work, we will not keep quiet. If they do not take them back the 7000 labourers will not resume work. We will say so. The Mill management have to earn lakhs of rupees. Mr.Nuttal should not be stubborn. Let them be friendly with the labourers. They work very hard. I tell them- you are earning lakhs of rupees. Therefore, be merciful and have fellow-feelings. Let us come to an amicable settlement. They get profit on account of the 7000 labourers. Therefore, the labourers should get better bonus; they must get better facilities. They(the management) should win the love of the labourers, so that the labourer will be very willing to work. But today, it is not the case. I request them not to be stubborn, at least in future. Let them be kind to the labourers; thereby they will enhance their reputation and prestige. Look at the United Provinces. There the Government have issued an order to all the industrial concerns to see their way to pay increased wages so that there may not be any strike. It is also the case in Cawnpore. So also, our Government should follow them and they must inform the Mill management to pay increased wages on account of war. They must issue orders to all the mills. If the Government do not do that, at least the Mill management should do that. They must pay you increased wages. If they do not do so, we will do it for you after the Union is registered(claps). But all of you- 7000 labourers must enrol yourselves as members to the Binny Mills Labour Union. Have faith in unity. The union will certainly help you and remove your difficulties. You must also become congress members. Then your difficulties will be wiped out.

One Mr.Narasimhaiengar(Narasimhiah) spoke in Kannada to the following effect:- Gentlemen- I think you all belong to Binny Mills. The President has said that there are 7000 labourers. I do not see even 1/16 of the 7000 labourers here. Many went away from the mill. The President has asked you to strengthen your organisation.

I am also one of the Kapmaris. Till today I have not come forward. If they bring me out, I am prepared for it. We apprehend a tussel between the labourers and the Mill management. If the Mill management refuse to take the 10 people again you must not go to work(claps). You will only clap but I have no faith in you. You must all be united. It is a very strong weapon. In England there arouse a hitch between the railway workers and the management. The management refused to pay more wages. The labourers became united and stopped the trains at a certain time on a certain day over the bridges or amidst a forest. When the management wanted to know the cause the labourers asked for more wages. Then the management came round. Similarly in the Postal Department at Calcutta, the postal peons struck work. The Postal peons were paid more on account of the strike. See today they get 20-25 rupees. This is all due to unity. We have not got that unity. As the President told you, you must all pay your subscriptions. If our 10 brothers are not hadtaken back for work then you must all be prepared to strike work. If we are united we will get more pay. If they do not take back those 10 persons I will be the first man to carry on this war. On Monday we will get pay. I request you all to pay 2 annas on that day. The Union office has to incur a monthly expenditure of Rs.200/-. The President says so. Please pay two annas each. Even the ladies are put to difficulty on account of us. See they are also listening to us patiently. Please pay the subscriptions. Another thing- we have got a Union [illegible] inside the mills. It is not a rival association. Now it has receded to the background. It is on account of our lack of unity. There we have got some money left. It belongs to us. I do not usually go there. I suggest to you one thing. Some people say that they have paid 10 or 20 Rs. and they want it back. In November or December we will have a General Body meeting. It seems the money left in the Union will be disbursed at that meeting among the members who have paid the money. But I request you all to send that money to our new Labour Union and please do not take away that money.

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Mr.Dharmaraja Iyengar spoke in Kannada to the following effect:-

President and gentlemen- Now my task is very simple. During the Binny Mill enquiry I came to know more about you- your difficulties and defects. I now want to tell you something about your defects. Many of you are afraid. This must go. You are afraid of your jobs and the Mill management. If you determine that not to accept bonus unless the other 10 persons are also paid, you must certainly act according to your determination. None of you should put forth lame excuses. It speaks ill of the labourers. So long as are afraid our conditions will not be improved. If you are united you will get better facilities. Some are very bold. When Mr.Muttal told one Ramiah that he has sent him on probation, Ramiah questioned him as to why Mr.Muttal has done so. I appreciate him. We must all be bold. Another thing is- how many many members are in the Textile Labour Union- Mr.Puttaswamkarappa said about 4000 or 5000, while Mr.Aspden said 400 or 500. Look at his(Aspden) indifference. All the 7000 labourers should become members of the Textile Labour Union. Every one of you should become a member and pay the subscription and convene meetings. You must exchange your opinions. It will help you. If you all enroll yourselves as members of the Labour Union and convene meetings, then everything will become alright. I think that you know that unity is strength. You must convene meetings and take the opinion of the majority and act according to their decision. You want a place to convene your meetings. You cannot always convene meetings in open places. You will have to convene your Working Committee meetings etc. For a building you require money. You must pay subscriptions- monthly ₹ 2 annas. The case against these 10 persons is not a case against these 10 alone. They wanted to give them a representative punishment. That is why the management caught hold of them at the first instance to give representative punishment. If you give up these 10 persons your unity will go. You must all be united and work. We had also to bring an advocate from Madras. We had to incur some expenditure. These ten persons have suffered just for your sake. We cannot say anything about the judgment. But you must all be united by becoming members of the union, you can have your own Office-bearers and Committee members and thereby strengthen your organisation. Among the labourers, there are Hindus, Muslims etc. I am very glad that you labourers have not such differences distinction as Hindu or Muslim. You all work together. Therefore, you must all be united; be brave and pay your subscriptions. The amount you pay may be utilised for

compensation for those who have lost their jobs and for those who fall ill. You have achieved success on account of congress. You must always take their advice and I am sure you will progress. I pray Almighty to improve your conditions.

Mr.B.C.Puttashankarappa, Vice-President of the Textile Labour Union, spoke in Kannada to the following effect:-

Brothers and sisters- I propose vote of thanks on your behalf to Messrs.K.T. Bhashyam, Malavalli Virappa and Dhanaraja Iyengar of the Bangalore Textile Labour Union, Minerva Mills Labour Union and the T.R.Mills Labour Union respectively. They have told you everything. Even if you forsake these ten persons, they will not forsake you. The 10% bonus should be given to all the 7000 labourers. I am telling this in the interest of the Binny Mill management. Till today they have not taken notice of the labour union papers. If the Union is registered, we will take proper steps. Then the management will come in search of the labour union. You must all be united and pay your subscriptions. Thereby you will give us courage to go ahead. We are prepared for everything. Everything depends upon you. Taking us (10 persons) back for work is within your hands. You must all become congress members. I once again thank the speakers of the day, and all those who have attended.

The meeting terminated at 5-50 p.m. amidst cries of 'Jais'.

Sd/= K. Krishnaswamy
Stenographer,
Special Branch, CID.

Bangalore City,
November 10,1941.

"Copy"

Superintendent, C.I.D.
Bangalore City

Telephone No.

B. G. A. MUDALIAR, Esq., B.A.,
B.Sc. (Tech.) Manchester, A.M.I.Mech. (Eng.),
Commissioner of Labour in Mysore.

1512 CB (7)

SECY. TO GOVT. 14 NOV 1941 MYSORE

Mysore Chamber of Commerce Buildings,
Kempegowda Road,

D. O. No. A-9/41-42/L.C.C. &c

Dated Bangalore, 14th November *1941*.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Mr.Vedavyasacharya,

I am sending herewith,for the information of Government, copy of a letter No.S.C.No.3/41-42 dated 5-11-1941,marked Secret, from the Superintendent of Police,Bangalore City, to the District Magistrate,Bangalore,which has been forwarded to me by the District Magistrate, regarding the activities of the workers of the Binny Mills who are on probation in the above Mills and also about the labour conditions in the Minerva and the Mysore Spinning and Manufacturing Co.,Ltd.

For perusal.

Min. Law) UO 14/11/41 MS 15/11/41

Yours sincerely,

B G A Mudaliar

V.Vedavyasacharya,Esq.,B.A.,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department,
Bangalore.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
NOV 15 1941
4841 SRS

15/11

Secretary).

15/11/41 UO 15/11/41

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Letter No.C.C.3/41-42 dated the 5th Nov.1941, from the Superintendent of Police, Bangalore City, to the District Magistrate, Bangalore District (forwarded to the Commissioner of Labour by the District Magistrate with his letter dated 5th Nov.1941.)

I have the honour to state that it is reported that the workers who are on probation at the Binny Mills are trying from now on to prepare the labourers' for a strike in case the decision by the Enquiry Officer is found unfavourable to them.

Similarly discontentment is prevailing among the workers of the Minerva and Mysore Mills and the case of externee Lingaiya is being made an excuse for the spread of discontentment in these mills.

The general situation in the labour Circle is being watched.

The enquiry officer finished his sittings yesterday. Arguments were adduced by Mr.Nugent Grant on behalf of the management and by Messrs.V.V.Srinivasa Iyengar and S.K. Venkataranga Iyengar on behalf of the labourers. A sum of Rs 300/- is reported to have been raised yesterday by Mr.K.T.Bhashyam to be paid to Mr.V.V.Srinivasa Iyengar as the final payment for his services.

"Copy"

Commissioner of Labour
in Mysore.

SRS)14-11-1941.

Confidential.
D. O. No. 147/41-42/883 Home (25)

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BANGALORE 71

November 18, 1941.

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

Sd
18/11/41
Law minister & Dewan

We may wait for some time ~~with~~ in view of subsequent developments. But the point is that any speech

My dear Kesaviengar

As desired, I discussed this morning with Mr. Seshadri and Mr. Wynne the advisability of taking action against Bhashyam and others under the Defence of India Rules for provocative speeches made at the meeting of the 8th November. The propositions set out in the enclosed note furnish, in our view, a correct appreciation of the issues involved.

Yours sincerely
Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T.Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore.

or action punishable under Rules 129 (1) (a) & 38 (5) of the Defence of India Rules should be promptly arrested & prosecuted against.

18/11/41

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Circulate
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N O T E.

1. It is a mistake to suppose that the arrest and/or prosecution of Bhashyam and other Congress cum Labour leaders now would prevent a strike in Binny's Mills if the report of the Special Tribunal turns out to be favourable to the Management and if the 10 "probationers" are not taken back. In the latter event, a strike is probable, whether preventive action is taken against the leaders or not, but the arrests would inevitably precipitate a strike.

2. If a strike occurs without any previous preventive action, Messrs.Nuttall and Nisbett will no doubt say that it could have been prevented if the arrests had been made earlier, but we think they would be wrong. Their attitude now is exactly what it was in September last, when they maintained that everything was peaceful and would have remained so if only Bhashyam had not been allowed to make provocative speeches, whereas the immediate cause of that strike was the action of the Management in withholding the half-yearly bonus from the "probationers". In any case, Bhashyam could say that he contemplated a legal, not an illegal, strike.

3. If, as seems likely, some of the Congress leaders are on the look-out for a favourable pretext on which to start a Satyagraha movement, the prosecution of Bhashyam and others now, coming on top of the arrest of Mr. H.Siddiah, would furnish them with one. They would say, citing the recent strike at Bhadravathi, that Government were afraid of Congress because the latter had set themselves up as the champions of the rights of Labour throughout the State and were in control of the Unions, and that any repressive action taken against Congress leaders was really dictated by the desire of Government to safeguard the profits which a square deal for labour would seriously deplete.

4. The cultivation by Congress of closer relations with Labour ever since the passing of the Mysore Labour Act, would

would enable the former to bring Labour out in a sympathetic strike all over the State if a strike in Binny's Mills followed the arrest of Congress leaders.

5. Preventive action against Bhashyam and others now would certainly encourage the various groups in the Congress Party to sink their differences and combine against the Government.

6. If a clash between Government and Congress is inevitable, it seems better policy for Government to let Congress go further and put itself completely in the wrong before taking repressive action. Government would then be in a position to act decisively and could count on the support of public opinion.

18th November 1941.

Inspector-General of Police.

No. 252.

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THE BANGALORE WOOLLEN, COTTON & SILK MILLS Co. Ld.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
WOOLLEN BANGALORE.

TELEPHONE No. 2037.

VICTORY

BANGALORE CITY, 3rd December 1941.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Mr. Appadorai Mudaliar,

I would like to draw your attention to a statement made by Mr. K. T. Bhashyam appearing in the "Daily News" paper of December 3rd under the caption "Labour Problems in Bangalore, Recent Enquiry Findings Disappointing". I would particularly invite your attention to the following paragraphs which appear in this statement:-

"I would therefore ask the workers of the three Mills not to get disspirited nor despair of securing a just remedy for the wrongs. The Labour Act provides for such remedy. Let them get their Associations registered and press their demands. If neither the Labour Commissioner, the Chief Conciliator nor a Board of Conciliation, if any, fails to secure them such redress as may be satisfactory and acceptable to all parties concerned, it will be open to the workers to go on strike.

"They can well insist on the ten persons being reinstated in the Binny Mills since the resumption of work was due to a mistaken impression that the Management had given an assurance of non-victimisation. They can well say that but for such impression they would not have resumed work leading to the

probation of these ten workers and the subsequent dismissal of six of them. They are entitled to resume the status they occupied before they rejoined work. Since the law demands that they should not do so without certain formalities being fulfilled, they would be well advised to satisfy the requirements of law and urge their demand. I have no doubt that if they did so the sympathies of all reasonable men will be with them. They may not get redress straightway and I am disposed to think they will not, and I regret to say so. But if they have the courage to suffer peacefully and non-violently for the cause they uphold they are eventually bound to succeed".

The whole statement is obviously intended to stir up our workers again and is bound to mislead them as to the findings of the Enquiry Officer. I assume it is meant to prepare them for further actions that may be demanded of them by Mr. K.T.Bhashyam and his co-agitators. I am sure you will agree that no useful purpose can be served by such statements which can only, in the long run, incite the workers and misrepresent to them actual facts, the result of which may mean further trouble in these Mills sooner or later. Is it possible for Government to take action to prevent such statements being made and to suppress the papers responsible for publishing them?

I fear that if people like Mr. Bhashyam are allowed to continue making such statements the consequences may be

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disastrous and we cannot accept responsibility should there be any further trouble in these Mills.

I may say that the six men that were dismissed will not be taken back into these Mills.

Yours sincerely,

anubes

B.G.Appadorai Mudaliar
Esq., B.A.,B.Sc.,A.M.I.Mech.E.,
Commissioner of Labour,
Government of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

Copy to
A.V.Ramanathan Esq.,B.A.,
Minister for Law,
Government of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

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